

**PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY July 8, 2020
TIME: 6:30 P.M.
Via WebEX.com
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT**

Members Present: Councilman Gene Nocera
Councilman Ed McKeon
Councilman Philip Pessina
Councilman Darnell Ford
Councilman Ed Ford Jr

Members Absent:

Staff Present: William Russo, Director of Public Works
Christopher M. Holden, P.E., Deputy Director of Public Works
Catherine Lechowicz, Director of Recreation and Community Services

Others:

Chair Nocera opened the Public Works & Facilities Commission meeting at 6:40 P.M. Chair Nocera requested a motion to approve the minutes dated June 10, 2020. The motion was made by Councilman Pessina. The motion was seconded by Councilman McKeon and passed unanimously. Chair Nocera made a motion to amend the agenda adding the date for the Ron McCutcheon Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. A motion was made by Councilman Pessina. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ford, and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Eagle Scout Project at Crystal Lake – Zach comes before the Public Works & Facilities Commission to present his Eagle Scout project that he would like to do at Crystal Lake. It is a total of four benches and a lighted up flag pole. He will be working on raising funds to get the supplies needed for the project. Director Russo states that he will have Public Works assist Zach during the installation for safety reasons. A motion was made by Councilman Pessina. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ford, and passed unanimously.
- b. LOCIP Harbor Park Repair Solution- A resolution was presented to the Commission to upgrade and repair the Harbor Park Tunnel. The resolution states the need for the repairs. The initial \$ 69,000.00 LOCIP request for the dog park fence will be closed out and funds returned to the LOCIP pool of funds available for other projects. After deliberation and unforeseen delays it has been determined that the project for the dog park fence be abandoned and revisited at a later date with revised plans. The resolution would authorize the Mayor to sign and submit an application to the State of Connecticut for a grant in the amount of \$ 69,000.00 in LOCIP funds, for the cost of the work. In addition, a new line item be created in the Capital Improvement Plan entitled "Harbor

Park Tunnel Repair” in the amount of \$ 69,000.00. Further discussion ensued. A motion was made by Councilman Pessina to forward the Resolution over to Finance & Government Commission. The motion was seconded by Chair Nocera and passed unanimously.

- c. CNR Report- Director Russo presented to the Public Works & Facilities Commission a new equipment proposal. It is a total of 4 new pieces of equipment. Freightler Tandem Truck with Plow \$241,000, Freightliner Truck \$ 190,000, John Deere Model 410 Backhoe with attachments \$141,794, and John Deere Model 544 Pay Loader \$ 165,206, the total comes to \$ 738,000. We waited for the Council to adopt the budget, CNR will not be bonded, and it was adopted into the present budget. Approval from the Commission is necessary to move it forward to the Finance & Government agenda. A motion was made by Councilman Ford. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pessina and passed unanimously.
- d. Proposal for the initial phase of work at Vet’s Park Pool- Mike Doherty from Milone and McBroom is here to present to the Commission a proposal for the Scope of Service and fees for the Veteran’s Memorial Park and Pool improvements. The pool will be removed and redesigned in its entirety, including the mechanical equipment. The pool house will be evaluated for restoration and remodeling. Milone and McBroom has partnered with EDM Architecture and Aquattica Pools and Water Park Inc, who will provide specialized design services. The City of Middletown also wants to focus on adding an outdoor spray pad or water play area. The professional fees are as follow: Survey \$9,950.00 Site investigation and Analysis \$26,000.00 and Schematic Design \$ 54,700.00 the total coming to \$90,650.00 and an additional \$1,500.00 for Direct expenses such as printing, special mailings, mileage, and other authorized out of pocket expenses. Further discussion ensued. A motion was made by Councilman Pessina to move forward to a planning stage. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ford and passed unanimously.
- e. Naming a Bench at Harbor Park after Andrew Brown-Katelyn Repscher has sent in correspondence to Director Russo requesting a memorial bench in honor of Andrew Steven Brown, his life was taken from a brutal act of violence on June 7, 2020. Director Russo has asked the Commission to vote on adding a plaque to one of the benches at Harbor Park in honor of Andrew Steven Brown. A motion was made by Councilman McKeon. The motion was seconded by Chair Nocera and passed unanimously.
- f. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at McCutcheon Park- Chair Nocera has suggest to the Public Works & Facilities Commission July 24, 2020 or July 31, 2020 as two possible dates for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the newly renovated Ron McCutcheon Park. The dates will be given to the Mayor to see which one best fits everyone’s schedule.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. June 2020 Public Works Overtime- The Public Works & Facilities Commission reviewed their monthly reports. There were no questions as the overtime has been at a minimal due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- b. June 2020 Building Permits- The Commission reviewed their Building Permits. Building continues to be very busy. We have estimated that the Building Department would generate an estimate of \$550,000.00. We have closed out the year surpassing the estimate by \$ 68,000.00.

OTHER:

- a. June 2020 Monthly Reports- Highway Division- The Public Works & Facilities Commission reviewed their monthly reports for the Highway Division. There were no questions.

- b. June 2020 Overtime Reports-Parks Division – The Public Works & Facilities Commission reviewed their monthly reports for the Parks Division. There were no questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

As there was no further discussion, a motion was made to end the meeting by Councilman Pessina. The motion was seconded by Councilman McKeon and approved unanimously. The Public Works & Facilities Commission meeting adjourned.